

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District

A Small District with a Big Impact

Buffalo District
Command Overview
Lt. Col. Owen Beaudoin
District Commander



®

Building Strong



District Web pages

- www.lrb.usace.army.mil
- <https://www.facebook.com/BufaloDistrict>
- <http://www.youtube.com/user/usaedbuffalo>
- <http://www.flickr.com/photos/buffalousace>
- www.usace.army.mil
- www.lrb.usace.army.mil/about/moviemadness.aspx



Buffalo District Area of Operations

Physical Features

100 miles of Federal channels

16 commercial harbors

19 recreational harbors

33 miles of breakwaters

25 members of Congress



Our Facilities

District Headquarters

2 Area Offices

3 Regulatory Field Offices

1 Lock

1 Dam

38,000 square miles; 700 miles of shoreline!



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District At A Glance:

- Approximately 260 District employees
- \$80-\$90 million annual program
- HTRW Design Center for Radiological Remediation and Regional Lead for Wind Power Permitting on the Great Lakes
- Almost 700 miles of shoreline
- Vital to National Commerce
 - 35 Harbors
 - 100 miles of Federal channels
 - 33 miles of breakwaters
- Mount Morris Dam – Protector of Rochester
- Black Rock Lock – A valued navigational asset

We maintain five of the top 100 ports in the U.S. !



1. Environmental Program

- Covers the areas of toxic radiological waste study sites and clean up including the Niagara Falls Storage Site and Lake Ontario Ordinance Works Site
- <http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/Missions/HTRW.aspx>



Formerly Utilized Site Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

Division leaders in Radiological,
chemical, and ordnance
remediation

Accounts for approximately
30% of the District's program



Linde Site (FUSRAP) , Tonawanda, NY



Niagara Falls Storage Site (FUSRAP) Lewiston, NY

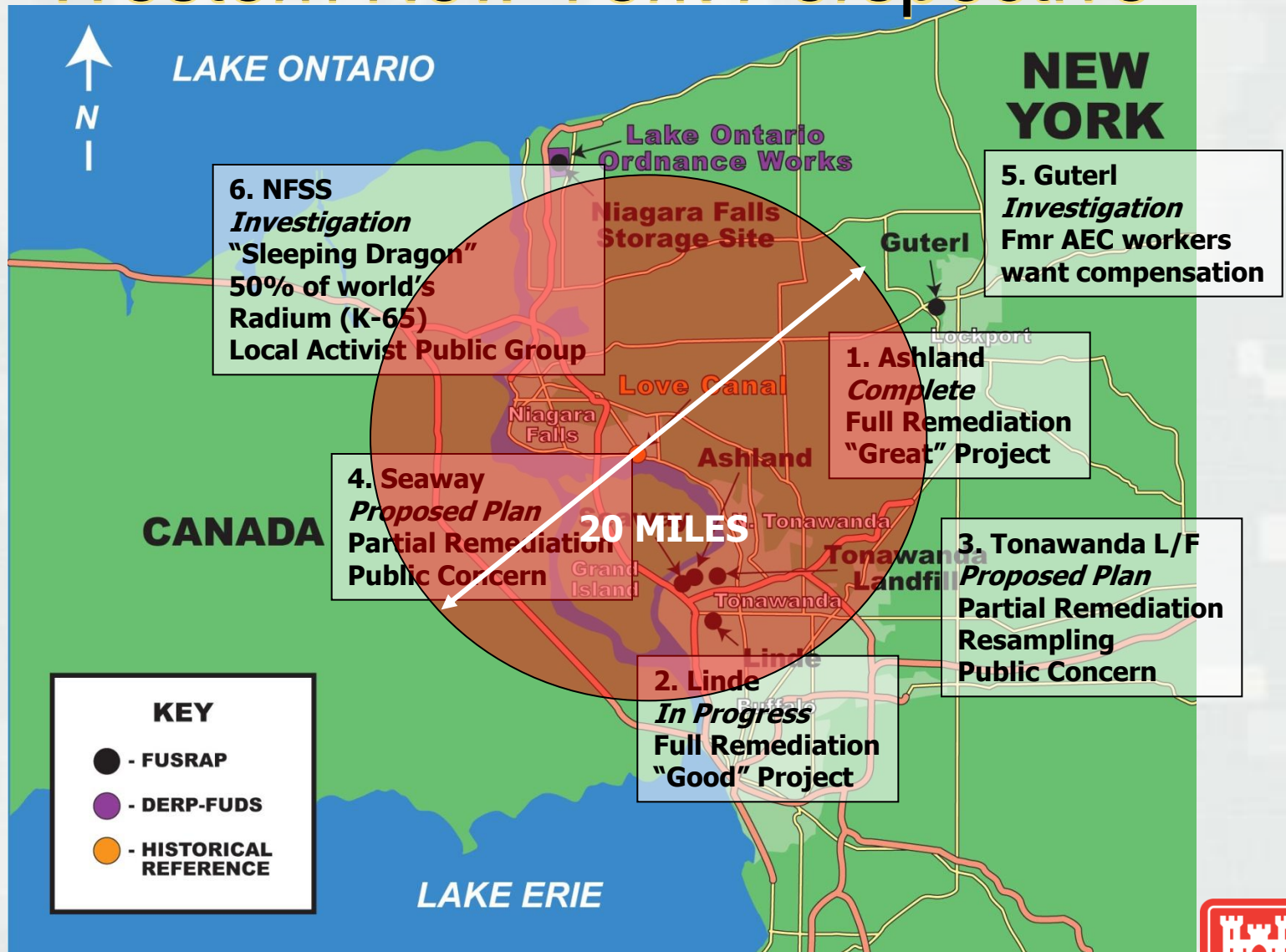


Linde Site (FUSRAP), Tonawanda, NY

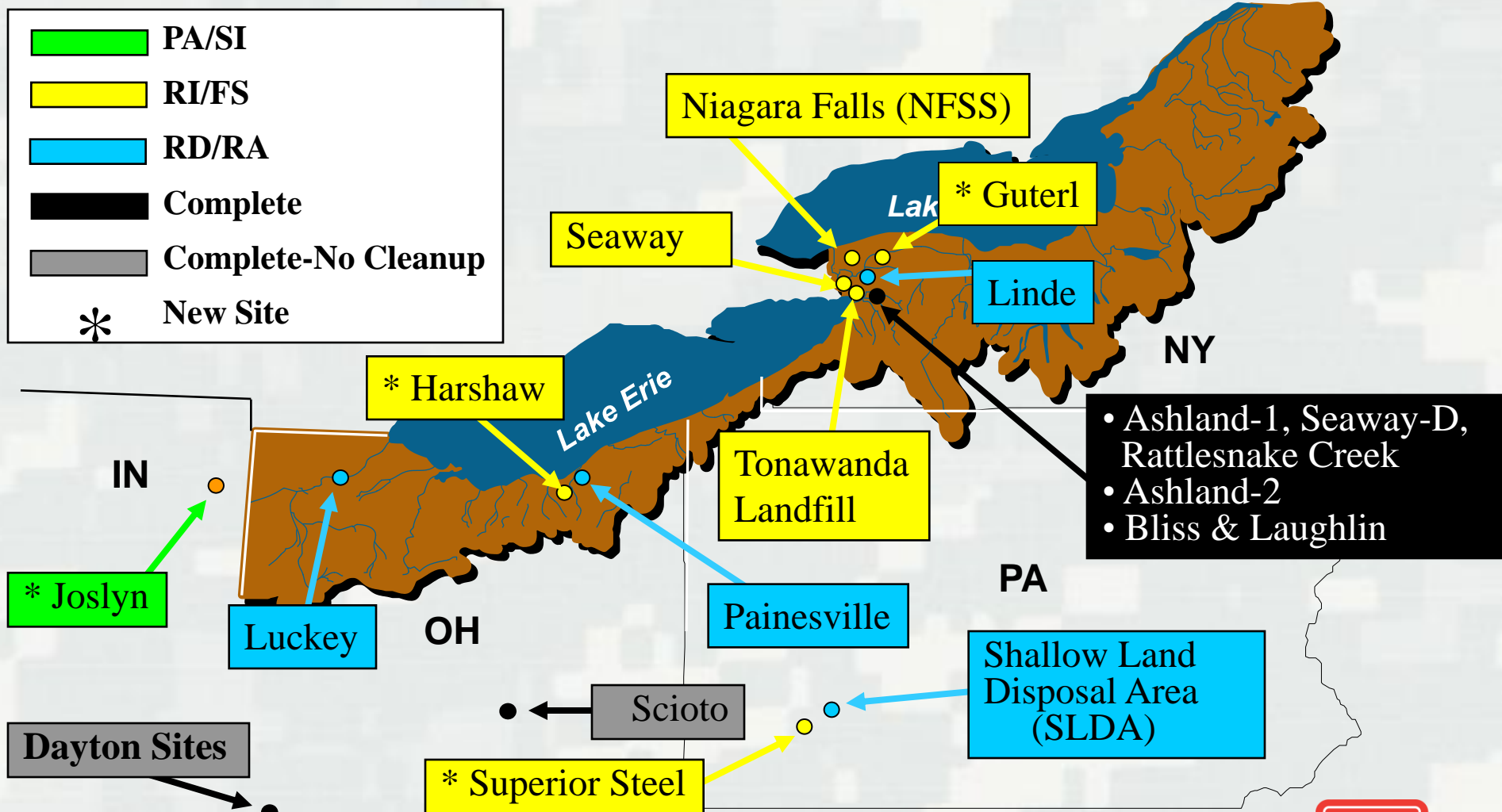


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Western New York Perspective



LRD Project Sites



2. Environmental Analysis

- National Environmental Policy Act including the Blanchard River Study.
- Dredging projects including sampling and disposal of sediment;



Regional Sediment Management

- Dredging maintains the Federal navigation channels.
- Materials can be placed in open waters or in a confined disposal facility.



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Environmental

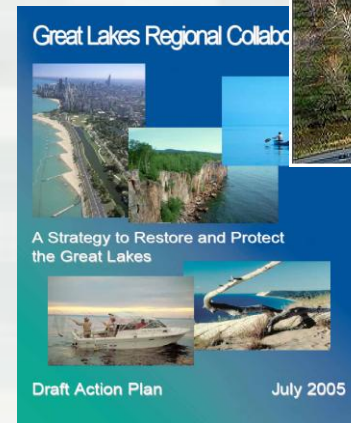
Ecosystem Restoration

**Support Executive Order 13340 and
the Great Lakes Regional
Collaboration (GLRC)**

**Western Lake Erie Basin, Sect. 441
Onondaga Lake Partnership, Sect.
573**

**Remedial Action Plan, Sect. 401
GL Sediment Transport, Sect. 516(e)
Env. Dredging, Sect. 312
Beneficial Use of Dredged Materials,
Sect. 204**

**Great Lakes Fisheries & Ecosystem
Restoration (GLFER), Sect. 506
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
(GLRI), EPA**



**Onondaga Lake
New York**



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Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899

- Applies to Navigable Waters - waters that are currently, historically and could in the future represent opportunity for interstate commerce **(33 CFR 329.4)**
- All activities and structures within, above, or beneath navigable waters are regulated



Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899

- Limits of jurisdiction for navigable waters
 - ▶ Upstream limit of interstate commerce
 - ▶ Ordinary high water mark, in the absence of adjacent wetlands
 - ▶ Beyond the ordinary high water mark, to the limit of the adjacent wetlands



Section 9 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899

- Pertains to bridges and causeways, the authority for which was transferred to the USCG (33 CFR 320.2)
- Fill associated with bridges requires a Section 404 permit from the Corps



Section 404 of the Clean Water Act of 1977

- Applies to 'waters of the United States' (**33 CFR 328.3**)
- Discharges of dredged or fill material are regulated
- Goal - to preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of U.S. waters



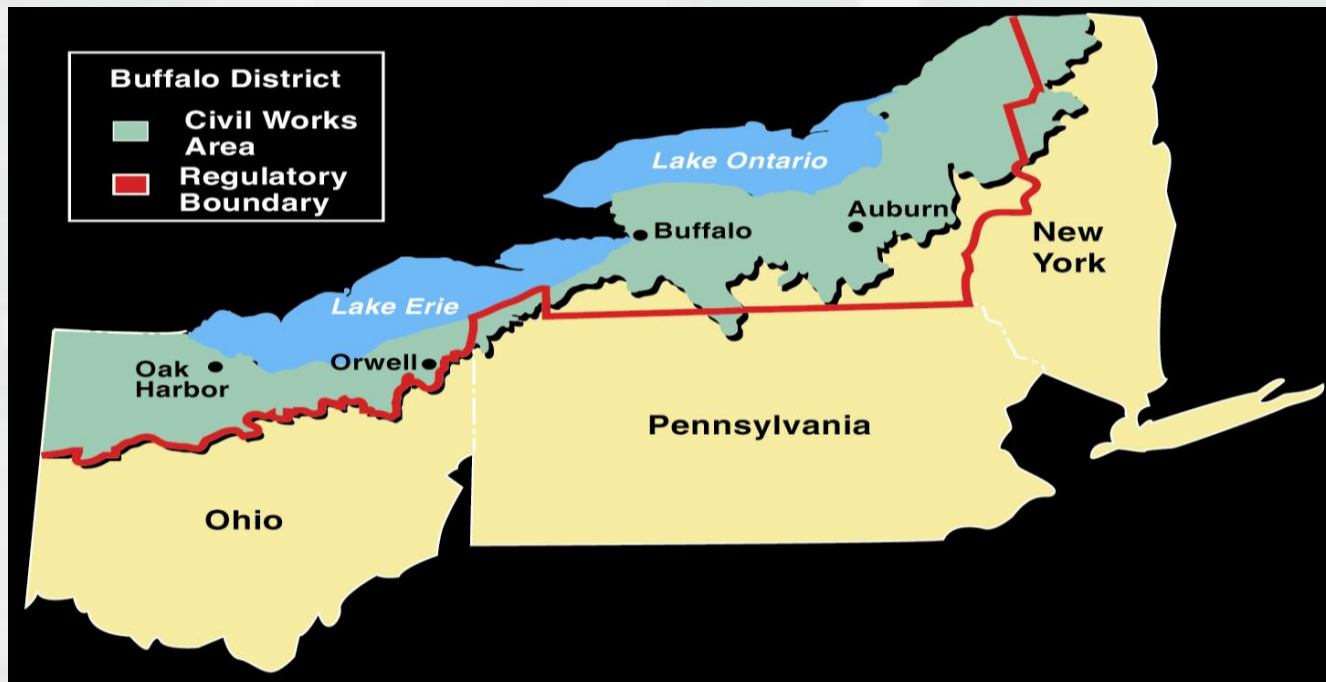
Buffalo River Dredging



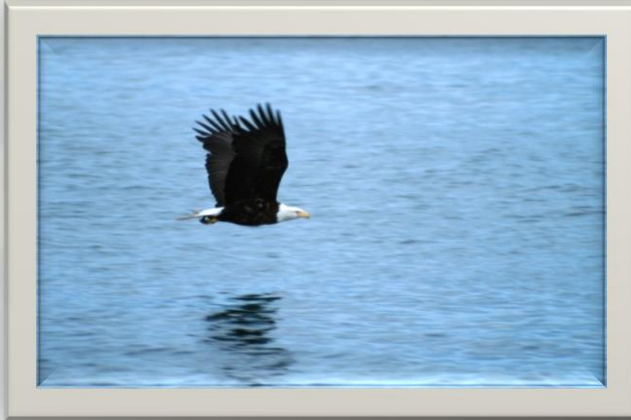
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3. Regulatory

- Regional Lead on Windfarms
- Regional GIS Lead
- Protect and Manage Wetlands
- Buffalo District's Regulatory program covers 55% of New York State



Regulatory Program



Program Goals

- Provide strong protection of the Nation's aquatic environment, including wetlands, while allowing reasonable and necessary development to proceed.
- Enhance efficiency of Corps administration of regulatory program.
- Ensure Corps provides regulated public with fair and reasonable decisions in a timely manner.





- Our Regulatory Program ensures that environmental impact on aquatic resources from construction projects is avoided, minimized, or mitigated.
- We are dedicated to protecting the Nation's aquatic resources while allowing reasonable and necessary development to go forward.



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Wetlands

- swamps
- marshes
- bogs
- similar areas









Threatened and Endangered Species

Nationwide

- 593 animals
- 794 plants

New York

- 23 animals
- 11 plants



Indiana bat



Piping
plover



4. Invasive Species

- Examining potential pathways that can bring an invasive species into our area, including asian carp and other invasive species of fish, various snakes, microorganisms, and plants.
- <http://www.lrc.usace.army.mil/Portals/36/docs/projects/ans/docs/NISCwhatcanyoudo.pdf>



- Invasive species are non-native species that can cause harm to the environment, the economy or to human health. Invasive come from all around the world. As international trade increases, so does the rate of invasive species introductions.
- Invasive species threaten nearly every aspect of our world and are one of the greatest threats to New York's biodiversity. They cause or contribute to:
 - ▶ Habitat degradation and loss
 - ▶ The loss of native fish, wildlife and tree species
 - ▶ The loss of recreational opportunities and income
 - ▶ Crop damage and diseases in humans and livestock
- <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/265.html>



Types of Invasive Species

- **Plants**

- [Didymo \(Rock Snot\)](#)
- [Giant Hogweed](#)

- **Insects**

- [Asian Longhorned Beetle \(ALB\)](#)
- [Emerald Ash Borer \(EAB\)](#)
- [Hemlock Woolly Adelgid](#)
- [Gypsy Moth](#)
- [Sirex Woodwasp](#)

- **Fish and Shellfish**

- [Chinese Mitten Crab](#)
- [Northern Snakehead Fish](#)
- [Sea Lamprey](#)

- **Mammals**

- [Feral Swine](#)



5. Planning

- Includes environmental restoration projects – e.g. examining a Corps project that impacted an area and determining how to restore/improve environmental impact (such as restoration of wetlands);



Ecosystem Restoration

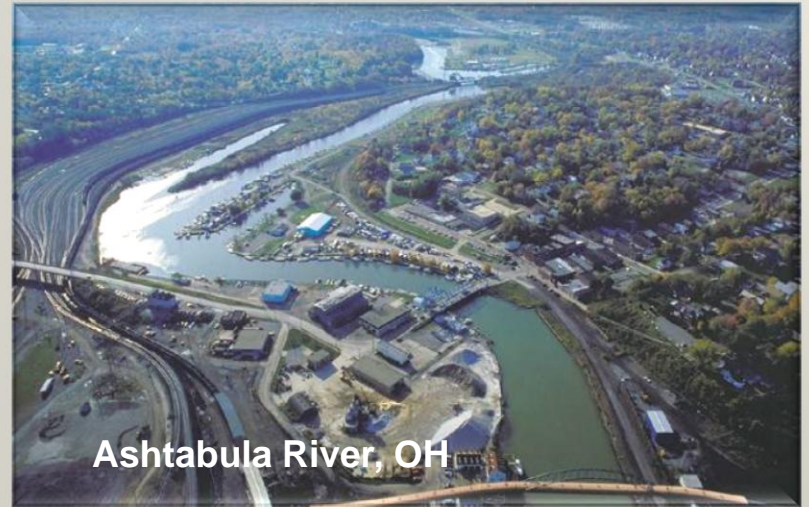
- Objective: Restore significant ecosystem resources to less degraded, natural condition.
- Focus: aquatic, riparian, and wetland resources.
- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative provides \$475 million for a USEPA led interagency initiative to address invasive aquatic species, non-point source pollution, and contaminated sediment.



Ecosystem Restoration



Buffalo River, NY



Ashtabula River, OH



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Times Beach

- As part of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Times Beach Aquatic Invasive Species Removal Project is a demonstration project which will use proven techniques from around the country to control the invasive species located on the Times Beach site.
- <http://www.flickr.com/photos/buffalousace/sets/72157629591947266/>



Times Beach



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Chautauqua Creek Project

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Buffalo District, in coordination with the Village of Westfield and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).
- The purpose of the Great Lakes Fishery and Ecosystem Restoration (GLFER) project is to provide fish access to approximately 10 miles of high quality spawning areas in the upper portion of Chautauqua Creek and restore fishery populations using dam removal measures.



Chautauqua Creek Project



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